

Waste Management Practices, 1960-2005

(pounds per person per day)

	1960	1970	1980	1990	1995	2000*	2005*
Generation	2.68	3.25	3.66	4.50	4.40	4.50	4.73
Recovery for recycling/composting	0.17	0.22	0.35	0.73	1.14	1.35	1.52
Discards after recovery	2.51	3.04	3.31	3.77	3.26	3.16	3.22
Combustion	0.82	0.67	0.33	0.70	0.74	0.75	0.75
Discards to landfill	1.69	2.36	2.98	3.07	2.52	2.41	2.46
Population (in millions)	180.0	204.0	227.3	250.0	263.2	271.2	277.0

Source: Characterization of MSW in the U.S.: 1998 Update, U.S. EPA, Washington, DC

*Assumes 30% recovery in 2000 and 32% recovery in 2005 and assumes population increases at a rate of .4% annually.

Note: Generation = Recovery for recycling/composting + Discards after recovery.

Total Discards = Amount combusted + Amount discarded to landfill.